

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66603

DRAFTED BY:EUR:DGOOTT

APPROVED BY: EUR:DGOOTT

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R 081504Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

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FOLL REPEAT PARIS 6778 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRUSSELS EC BRUSSELS  
GENEVA LONDON LUXEMBOURG OTTAWA ROME STOCKHOLM VIENNA TUNIS  
18 MAR 74 QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 6778

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB

SUBJECT: EUR-AF LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE 1974

REF: STATE 51497

LABATT OFFERS FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR  
AGENDA EUROPEAN LABATT CONFERENCE TUNIS APRIL 22-26:

1.A. ETUC/US: CONFERENCE LIKELY TO BE DOMINATED BY  
PROSPECT OF UNIFICATION OF WE LABOR MOVEMENT THROUGH  
ETUC, POSSIBLY INCLUDING CGIL AND CGT. SUGGEST,  
THEREFORE, THAT SUFFICIENT TIME BE ALLOWED FOR  
THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF SUCH QUESTIONS AS: WHAT ARE  
THE IMPLICATIONS FOR US INTERESTS OF VARIOUS  
POSSIBILITIES - ETUC WITH OR WITHOUT CGIL, CGT, OR  
BOTH? WHAT ROLE IS THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT  
LIKELY OR ABLE TO PLAY IN THIS CONNECTION? WHAT  
WILL BE ETUC'S IMPACT ON THE EEC? WHAT ROLE,  
OTHER THAN THAT OF REPORTER, SHOULD LABATT PLAY?

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TO WHAT EXTENT ARE DEVELOPMENTS IN US-EUROPEAN

RELATIONS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE ETUC AND ITS  
POTENTIAL AS AN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FACTOR?  
B. WHILE CONFEREES FROM THE FIELD CAN BE EXPECTED  
TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENTS AND  
ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS, CONFEREES FROM WASHINGTON  
WILL BE LOOKED TO FOR GUIDANCE, AND FOR AN  
AUTHORITATIVE RATIONALE FOR THE POSITIONS TAKEN.

2. WASHINGTON BACKSTOPPING OF LABOR ATTACHES:  
ALTHOUGH THIS PERMANENT FEATURE OF LABATT CONFERENCES  
SUGGEST SPECIAL EFFORT TO SO STRUCTURE THE DISCUSSION AS TO  
ENCOURAGE IF NOT STIMULATE NEW IDEAS AS TO HOW  
WASHINGTON RESOURCES CAN BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON LABATT'S  
EFFECTIVENESS IN THE FIELD. TWO SUGGESTIONS ALONG  
THIS LINE: A. ISSUANCE OF A SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS  
(5-10 PAGES) COVERING SPECIFIC ISSUES OR  
INSTITUTIONS, EITHER AT WASHINGTON INITIATIVE OR IN  
RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC REQUESTS FROM THE FIELD.  
ILLUSTRATIVE SUBJECTS: MEASUREMENT OF COST-OF-LIVING  
FLUCTUATIONS; RECENT TRENDS IN NLRB DECISIONS; LEGAL  
OR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RESTRAINTS ON EMPLOYERS'  
RIGHT TO FIRE; COMPARATIVE LABOR COSTS IN  
INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. B. PERIODIC REPORTS FROM  
WASHINGTON ON NEW BOOKS, BY COUNTRY, DEALING WITH  
LABOR INSTITUTIONS OR DEVELOPMENTS ABROAD.

3. FUTURE ROLE OF ITS':  
DECLINE OF INFLUENCE BY INTERNATIONAL BODIES SUCH AS  
ICFTU - WFTU AND WCL SEEMS TO USHER PERIOD OF  
GREATER ACTIVITY AND IMPORTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
TRADE SECRETARIATS. THIS COUPLED WITH INDICATIONS OF  
COMMUNIST INTENT TO USE ITS' AS FORA FOR EXPANDED  
EAST-WEST TRADE UNION CONTACT CALL FOR HIGHER LEVEL  
US PARTICIPATION IN THESE BODIES. WHAT ROLE, IF ANY,  
CAN LABATT AND WASHINGTON APPROPRIATELY PLAY IN  
PROMOTING AND ASSISTING HIGHER AND MORE ACTIVE  
PARTICIPATION BY US LABOR?

4. MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES:  
GIVEN LARGE NUMBER OF AMERICAN MULTINATIONAL FIRMS,  
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AND UNABATED HOSTILE RHETORIC AGAINST THEM, US  
INTERESTS ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN EVENTUAL ACTION ON  
THIS ISSUE. DOES THE USG HAVE -SHOULD IT HAVE -  
A FIRM, CLEARLY ENUNCIATED POLICY ON THE QUESTION OF  
MULTINATIONAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?

5. INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANTS:  
CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO ADVISABILITY OF

PROVIDING SPECIAL IV GRANTS FOR LEADERS AND KEY STAFF  
MEMBERS OF ETUC AND ITS.

6. LABATT CONTRIBUTION TO US BALANCE OF PAYMENTS:  
WHAT IS NEEDED IS SPECIFIC IDEAS AND NOT RINGING  
EXHORTATIONS. EXAMPLE: A. LABATT FACILITATES  
CONTACT BETWEEN AMERICAN AIRLINES AND KEY LABOR  
LEADERS TO PROMOTE PACKAGE PROGRAMS OF GROUP VISITS  
TO US BY UNION MEMBERS. B. LABATT ASSISTS US  
TRAVEL AGENCY IN CONTACTS WITH ITS TO PROMOTE US  
AS SITE OF ITS CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETINGS.  
STONE  
UNQUOTE RUSH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR ATTACHES, MEETINGS, LABOR OBJECTIVES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE070341  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EUR:DGOOTT  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740080-0334  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740458/aaaacawe.tel  
**Line Count:** 129  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 51497  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EUR-AF LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE 1974  
**TAGS:** ELAB, XG, ETUC  
**To:** BONN  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005